THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) Instructions were issued to Ministries/Departments of the Government to effect a cut in the Central non-Plan expenditure by 3 per cent over the approved amounts for 1983-84. They were further advised to bring about 5 per cent cut in approved Plan outlays for the *Tear* 1983-84.. No quantification of these measures was made.

The Government continued to take necessary steps to curb inessential and non-productive expenditure during 1984-85.

Instructions were again issued in September, 1985 for effecting a cut of 5 pai cent in thg no-Plan expenditure voted by Parliament for the year 1985-86. Due to this cut in an economy of Rs. 894.13 crores is estimated to have been achieved.

(b) and (c) The information is not centrally available nor it is practicable to collect the same within a reasonable time.

Retention of over subscribed share money by M/s. ITC and M/s. Modi Alkalies and Chemicals Ltd.

1303. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will file Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s- HC Ltd. and M/s. Modi Alkalies & Chemi cals Ltd. have managed to corner huge amounts while raising their capital in 1984;

(b) whether it is a fact that in spite ot Government's order these two companies have retained over-subscribed amounts against tbe issue; and

(c) if so, what is the amount retained by each of these two companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRl JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) *to* (c) M/s. Modi Alkalies & Chemicals Ltd. were accorded consent on 31.5.84 to the issue of secured, non-convertible debentures of Rs. 125 lakhs, for cash at par to the existing equity share-holders ot die company M/s. ITC Ltd. were accorded consent on 3.5.84 to the allotment of fully paid equity shares of Rs. 296.23 Iakhs to certain bond-holders in lieu of interest on the bonds issued in terms of consent order No. R.354/CCI/ 82 dated 1.9.1982, as amended.

In both these cases no approval was granted for the retention of over subscription.

आटोमोबाइल वर्कशाप एसोसिएशन, पटना का ज्ञापन

1304. **श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पटना आटोमोबाइल एसोसिएशन का एक प्रतिनिधि मंडल हाल में उनसे मिला था ;

(ख) क्या इस प्रतिनिधि मंडल ने अपने ज्ञापन में सरकार द्वारा पिछले केन्द्रीय बजट में बसों तथा ट्रकों का ढांचा बनाने वालों पर उत्पाद शुल्क लगाने के परिणामस्वरूप लघु स्तर के ढांचा बनाने वालों को पेश आ रहे वित्तीय संकट का उल्लेख किया है तथा यह सुझाव दिया है कि इस कर को वाहनों की चेसियां बनाने वालों से लिया जाय ; और

(ग) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क) तथा (ख) का उत्तर "हां" हो, तो क्या सरकार ने इस सुझाव पर विचार किया है और इसे स्वीकार न करने के क्या कारण हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जनार्दन पुजारी) : (क) और (ख) जी, हां ।

(ग) अभ्यावेदन पर विचार किया जा रहा है ।

Agitation by coffee growers in Karnataka

1305. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE b$_e$ pleased to state.

(a) whether it ha$_s$ come to the notica of the Central Government that coffee growers of Karnataka have started an indefinite agitation from the 29th March, 1986;

(b) if so, what are their demands; ana

(c) what steps Government have taken in the matter? ,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THR MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The major demands made by the Coffee growers relate revision of Minimum Release Price, waiver of export duty, more representation to growers in the Board, a grower member should be ihe Chairman of the Coffee Board payment of firet instalment equal to Minimum Release Price to growers.

Decision regarding revision of Minimum Release Price is expected to be taken soon. While imposing export duty it is ensured that the growers' remunerative return and exporters' profit margin is *kept* intact and only half of the windfal gain beyond a base price so arrived is charged as the export duty. ,

The composition of the Board was reviewed as recently as in August, 1984 to provide more balanced representation. Chairman, Coffee Board has to be a Governrnent official with administrative experience who could take an overall view on an issue keeping in mind the various interests involved in coffee industry. Besides he acts as the Chief Executive.

The first instalment of payment to growers being equal to the Minimum Releass Price may not be in the interest of coffee growers becaasc the Board will have ,to arrange for payment through overdrafts al a higher rate of interest which will red nce the net payments to tbe growers considerably.

1306, *[Transferred to thr li'h August.* 19K1.

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Conversion of loan given to Karnatakt I from short term *to* medium term loam

1307. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Karnataka Govera trtent have urged the Central Govern ment to convert the short-term loam which were made available to the State Government under drought relief assist** ee, into medium-term loans; ,

(b) if so. what is the reaction of th* Central Government thereto; and

(c) by when a final decision is likaly to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) No request has been received from the Government of Karnataka for conversion of short term loans into medium term loam for draught relief.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Request for Ban on import of raw aUk by Exporters

1308 SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA; Will the Minister of TEXTILE* be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are awara that the silk industry in the South parti cularly in Karnataka State has been severa lly affected due to imports of raw «ilk exporters under the replenishment schema and advance licencing scheme;

(b) if so, whether Government ot Karnataka has urged the Central Goverm ment to put a ban on import of silk by exporters under rep'enishment of expnr! production and advance licencing *chea»a', and